MINUTES OF THE

OXFORD

BAPTIST

ASSOCIATION.

1889.

1889.
Southern Sentinel Print.
Ripley, Mississippi.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

OXFORD

Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

GOOD HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH,

PANOLA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Before the 2nd Sunday in Sept. 1889.

OFFICERS:

J. W. HIGGINBOTHAM.....MODERATOR.
S. R. WHITTEN.....CLERK.
E. J. LEIGH.....TREASURER.

1889.
SOUTHERN SENTINEL PRINT.
Ripley, Mississippi.

DIRECTORY

J. W. Higginbotham, Moderator,.....Taylor, Miss.
S. R. Whitten, Clerk, ...Alesville, "
E. G. Leigh Treasurer,.....Courtland, "

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

C. Crosby,.....J. J. Rotenbery,.....J. W. Stoguer.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

M. M. Randolph.....H. B, Gowen.....J. J. Rotenbery
S. R. Whitten.....R. M. Mitchell.....J. A. Lee
R. M. Mitchell.....E. M. Thornton.....J. G. Hill
T. A. Hale.....E. M. Randolph.....G. T. Birdsong
M. G. Leatherwood.....W. A. Simmons.....R. N. Mitchell
C. Crosby.....G. W. Humphreys.....

MINISTERIAL REGISTRY.

J. A. Lee, ...Pope, Miss
W. I. Hargis,.....University, "
G. W. Hollowell,.....Wallace, "
H. L. Johnson,.....Water Valley, "
C. C. Greer.....Wallace, "
M. G. Leatherwood,.....Pope, "
H. W. Rockett,.....Harrison, "
E. D. Rowe,.....

LICENTIATES.

J. T. Mabry,.....Harrison
P. C. Sizemore,.....Taylor
C. L. Anderson, Eureka Sp'gs
— Gillan....Water Valley

NEXT MEETING

PLACE—Pilgrim's Rest, twelve miles east of Courtland.
TIME—Thursday before second Sun. in September, 1890.
INTRODUCTORY SERMON—H. W. Rocket, *Alt.* J. A. Lee.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1st. Call for Petitionary Letters.
2nd. Receive Corresponding Messengers.
3rd. Receive reports of Messengers to corresponding bodies.
4th. Appoint a Finance Committee.
5th. Receive report of Executive Board.
6th. Receive reports of standing Committees.
7th. Receive Treasurer's report.
8th. Receive report of Finance Committee.
9th. Appoint Standing Committees.
10th. Appoint a place for next meeting.
11th. Appoint a Brother to preach Introductory Sermon.
12th. Miscellaneous Business and Resolutions.
13th. Call and correct the roll.
14th. Adjourn.

MINUTES.

Good Hope, Miss., Sept. 5th, 1889.

THE OXFORD BAPTIST ASSOCIATION met in its twentieth Session in the Baptist Church, and after preaching of Introductory Sermon by appointee, Rev. L. W. Metts, from John 14, 23, the former Moderator, J. W. Higginbotham, called the Association to order. Brethren W. I. Hargis and H. W. Rockett were appointed reading clerks. After reading the letters, on motion adjourned. Prayer by H. L. Finley.

Afternoon Session.

Prayer by Bro. Rockett. On motion of H. W. Rockett, J. T. Christian was instructed to cast the ballot for J. W. Higginbotham, Mod., S. R. Whitten Clerk, and E. G. Leigh, Treas.

On moti.n of H. L. Johnston, the Order of Business used at last meeting will govern us during this association.

On motion of H. W. Rockett, the deacons of this Church, together with Brethren C. Crosby and G. F. Scott, will constitute a committee on Devotional Exercises.

On motion of W. I. Hargis, where the No. *50* occurs in the constitution in regard to stipulating the number of delegates, it shall be stricken out and *25* inserted in its place.

Petitionary letters called, and the following corresponding messengers received: Bro. J. T. Christian, welcomed as a representative of the Convention Board, "Southern Baptist Record," "Our Home Field" and "Foreign Mission Journal." Bro. Bunch is here from the San Marcus Association, Texas, and reports that body in fine working order. Bro. H. L. Finley has attended the Tippah Association. Their meeting was harmonious. Bro. W. W, Dickens is welcomed as a representative of the Coldwater Association. Bro. H. L. Johnston stated that he had attended the Calhoun Association and that the meeting was good. Brethren Hargis and Rockett attended the South'n Baptist Convention at Memphis.

A motion by H. L. Johnston that we elect messengers to corresponding bodies. By acclamation: Eld's H. W. Rockett and W I Hargis, Brethren S R Whitten, C B Gowan, G W Hollowell, J A Lee, S R Lamb, C Crosby, G T Birdsong, and H L Johnston were elected to attend as messengers the State Convention to meet at Senatobia. Bro Hargis appointed to attend Tenn., State Con., also Southern Baptist Con., in Texas. S R Whitten and S R Lamb are to represent us in the Tippah Ass'n. Brethren H L Johnston and T A Hale are asked to attend the Calhoun Association. Brethren Metts and Hollowell appointed to atend the meeting of the Cold Water Aasociation. Brethren Rockett, J A Lee, C Crosby and J J Rotenberry appointed to be present at the Yalabusha Ass'n. Bro Finley wants us represented in the Chickasaw and Bro G W Hollowell volunteers to attend.

On motion of S R Whitten Brethren Hargis and J A Lee were adpointed to make a digest of the church letters, and read the same at some convenient time during this meeting.

Brother W T Hudson the appointee to write on State Missions being absent, on motion J A Lee is requested to report in his stead. Bro Hargis moves that Bro H B Gowan co-operate with Bro Greer in making a report on temperance as the chairman of said committe is absent, motion carried.

On motion the report on Foreign Missions is set for 10 o'clock to-morrow morning. Report on State Missions for 10 o'clock Saturday morning and the report on Sunday Schools to follow immediately that of Foreign Missions. After announcements by different brethren adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow. Bro Christian to preach 11 o'clock sermon.

J W HIGGINBOTHAN, Mod.

S R WHITTEN, Clerk.

Second Day—Morning Session.

Prayer by J A Lee. Bro Hargis moved to appoint sister A M Leigh to report on Woman's Work in the absence of sister Floyd. The report on Foreign Missions, (APPENDIX A.) read by W I Hargis, who discussed, at length, the question.

Bro Finley says: "As citizens it is our moral duty to give the gospel to the heathen." Bro Christian says: "Inform yourselves about this mission work. One dollar in our currency is worth $133⅓ in China. We need in our work consecration and self sacrifice. We would rather have some of these young men and ladies than to have your money. There is now before our Boards 1400 applicants for mission work.

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Brethren, lets have a part in every good thing in this world."

Pledges taken from the churches as follows:—

Bethany	Church	$ 30 00
Antioch	"	10 00
Big Springs	"	20 00
Courtland	"	20 00
Clear Creek	"	75 00
Concord	"	10 00
Good Hope	"	20 00
Liberty Hill	"	10 00
Mt Gillead	"	10 00
Pilg'm's Rest	"	12 00
Springport	"	2 50
Troy	"	5 00
Water Valley	"	30 00
Yocona	"	25 00
Yellowleaf	"	20 00
Pope	"	10 00
Ladies Mission Society at Pope		5 00
" " " Good Hope		10 00
Cash Collection		8 95

On motion adjourned until after dinner. After some announcements congregation dismissed by H L Finley.

J W HIGGINBOTHAM, Mod.

S R WHITTEN, Clerk.

FRIDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Sang "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds," prayer by W S Bunch. The report on Foreign Missions adopted. The report on Sunday schools (APPENDIX B.) read by H W Rockett. He thinks the S. S. one of our greatest works, and that great blessings have come to the Baptists through the S. S. as a means of leading souls to Christ. Brethren Metts and Finley also spoke to the report and it was adopted. The report on General Education (APPENDIX C.) was read by H L Johnston who also discussed the question. Bro J A Lee thinks uneducated preachers ruin the people. "Education is of God." Bro Metts says, "I am glad to belong to a church that is pressing the educational question." Bro Christian says, "I love to honor the names of our forefathers, they were grand men, though not so highly educated, they did their work nobly. We have 1,000 girls in Baptist Colleges and 250 boys. We must educate our boys. You can set Miss College down as always being right—but she must be endowed and we are going

to raise the money to endow her this year.

Report adopted. Report of Ex. Board (APPENDIX D.) read by S R Whitten and adopted. Mrs M J Nelson is very cordially invited to represent her work in our Association. The committee on devotional exercises announce that Bro Gilland will preach this evening, Bro Rockett to-morrow at 11 o'clock and Bro Christian Sunday at 11 o'clock.

J W HIGGINOOTHAM, Mod.

S R WHITTEN, Clerk.

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Sang "Children of the Heavenly King," prayer. Report on Temperance (APPENDIX E.) presented by Bro Gowan. Discussed by S R Whitten, J W Higginbotham and others. Bro Johnston thinks we can't drink whiskey and honor our Savior. By motion the report was was re-read and adopted.

Bro Lee reported on State Missions (APPENDIX F.) Discussed by brethren Lee, Rockett, Finley and Christian. Bro Finley says, "To-day our pulses are beating together on this mission question. Bro Rookett says, "I'm glad to note the progress in mission work." "Lets get it into our minds that this life is a life of work." Bro C. says "I don't believe there is a man in Adam's race that is not a missionary.

One of the most important works in our bounds is the colportage work. The people ought to read. From Memphis to New Orleans they scarcely have preaching at all. In almost every mail I get letters begging for preachers.

We have the only religious paper published in Miss., we have the only religious college, we have 80,000 Baptists. The Lord is on our side."

Pledges taken viz:

Antioch	Church	$ ———
Bethany	"	25 00
Big Springs	"	20 00
Courtland	"	20 00
Clear Creek	"	75 00
Good Hope	"	25 00
Liberty Hill	"	10 00
Popes	"	10 00
Pilgrims Rest	"	5 00
Springport	"	5 00
Troy	"	2 00
Water Vall'y	"	30 00
Yellow Leaf	"	30 00

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Yocona	"	25 00
Concord	"	10 00
Mt Gillead	"	10 00

On motion preaching was dispensed with. Bro Christian states that Bro Finley has lost $20 00, and in response $11.65 is raised to help replace the loss Bro Lamb read report on Publications (APPENDIX G.) and proceeds to discuss it. Says he believes the Southern Baptist Record has done more than any other agency towards building up our cause. Bro Hargis says "Sound literature is as necessary to the healthy growth of the mind, as wholesome food is to the growth of the body." "The time was when we had to look to other denominations for our works on theology" but now we have our own authors. A motion by Bro Hargis adds to the recommendations of the report the Sunday School literature, of the American Baptist Publication Society. The report is further discussed by Brethren Metts, Finley and others. On motion adjourned. Benediction by H W Rockett.

THIRD DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Song, "How Tedious and Tasteless." Prayer by Bro Leatherwood. The discussion of report on Publications resumed by H L Finley. Speeches by Brethren Rockett, Christian and Gowan. On motion the report is adopted. Digest of letters read by Bro Hargis and adopted. (APPENDIX H.) Treasurers report addopted (APPENDIX I.) Report of Finance Committee adopted (APPENDIX J.)

Standing Committees Appointed:

ON FOREIGN MISSIONS—S R Lamb, G F Scott.
" STATE MISSIONS.—H W Rockett, H B Gowan.
" SABBATH SCHOOLS—S R Whitten, J D Woodruff.
" GEN'L EDUCATION.—W I Hargis, J W Higginbotham.
" PUBLICATIONS.—G W Hollowell, J J Rotenberry.
" TEMPERANCE.—J A Lee, J L Sisk.
" CHURCH HISTORY.—S P Woodruff.
" WOMAN'S WORK.—Mrs A H Leigh.

A motion to have a report on prayer meeting and family worship, carried. L W Metts and H L Johnston committee.

Place of next meeting, Pilgrims Rest, Introductory sermon, H W Rockett; alt, J A Lee. On motion Bro Higginbotham appointed to write a history of our Ass'n and present to the historical society. Bro Hargis offered the following resolution:—

Whereas, the Abbeville church of the Chickasaw Ass'n, and the Batesville church of the Cold Water Ass'n are contiguous

to this Ass'n, and whereas we need their help, therefore

RESOLVED, That this Ass'n transmit, through the clerk to these sister churches, a request and cordial invitation to unite with this Ass'n."

Report on Woman's Work (APPENDIX K.) was read by W I Hargis for the committee. Discussed by J T Christian.

On motion the minutes of the woman's meeting at this place are to be printed in the minutes of the Ass'n. Bro Hargis presents the claims of Bro Anderson of this church and Bro Gilland of the Water Valley church, and urges the importance of educating them. Pledges are taken from the churches as follows.

Antioch	*	Bethany	$ 500
Big Springs	5 00	Clear Creek	10 00
Concord	*	Courtland	10 00
Good Hope	10 00	Liberty Hill	*
Mt Gillead	10 00	Pope	5 00
Pilgrims Rest	*	Springport	*
Troy	*	Yellow Leaf	*
Yocona	10 00	Water Valley	25 00

* Not prepared to pledge.

The Mod appointed the following members to constitute Executive Board: Antioch, M M Randolph; Bethany, H B Gowan; Big Springs, J J Rotenberry; Clear Creek, S R Whitten; Concord, R M Mitchell; Courtland, J A Leigh; Good Hope, E M Thornton; Liberty Hill, J G Hill; Mt Gillead, T A Hale; Pope, E M Randolph; Pilgrims Rest, M G Leatherwood; Springport, J T Birdsong; Troy, W A Simmons; Water Valley, C Crosby; Yellow Leaf, G W Humphreys; Yocona, R M Mitchell.

Central Board located at Good Hope and the former Central committee continued. The following resolution was read by Brother Hargis:

Resolved, That we tender our sincere thanks to the good people of this church and neighborhood for the very hospitable manner in which they have entertained this body.

The parting hand was extended while singing the "Sweet Bye and Bye." Bro Finley dismissed the Ass'n with prayer.

J W HIGGINBOTHAM, Mod.

S R WHITTEN, Clerk.

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MINUTES OF WOMAN'S MEETING AT GOOD HOPE CHURCH.

Meeting called to order by vice-President, Mrs Rosa May Leigh. Singing, "Jesus Lover of My Soul." Reading, Matt., XIV, 3-10. Prayer by Mrs M J Nelson. Essay by Mrs Leigh. Address by Mrs Nelson.

The churches were represented by the following named women: Bethany, Miss Mittie Draper; Big Springs, Miss Louida Johnson; Concord, Mrs Delia Tatum; Clear Creek, Miss Sallie Jones; Courtland, Miss Lunannie Leigh; Liberty Hill, Miss Fannie Jordan; Mt Gillead, Mrs Alice Hale; Popes, Miss Alice Randolph; Pilgrims Rest, Mrs Annie Vanderberg; Springport, Miss Clara Greer; Troy, Mrs Rebecca Simmons; Water Valley, Miss Gussie Avant; Good Hope, Emma Woodruff.

The report of Good Hope was then read and was full of encouraging news.

MRS REBECCA MAY LEIGH, Pres.
EMMA WOODRUFF, Sect.

For amount paid this year see Mrs Leigh's report.

REPORTS.

APPENDIX A.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

FOREIGN MISSIONS, are missions in other countries than our own. Foreign, means belonging to another country. Hence, this department of mission work has in it necessarily the least possible of the spirit of selfishness, since it is a work wholy for the good of strangers, and those who have neither notional or social claims upon us. In this work the spirit of the blessed Master is beautifully exemplified. He came to strangers, and among his enemies, that he might lift them up, and make them more like himself. "Have in ye the same mind that was also in Christ Jesus."

He who is in favor of missions at all, must be in favor of Foreign Missions, if he understands the fundamental principle of missions, and the clear teaching of the word of God on the subject. A writer in the MISSIONARY REVIEW, as quoted by the FOREIGN MISSION JOURNAL, puts it thus: "But above all else. the work of foreign missions has never been a mere corallary, but the main proposition instead, never an adjunct, an avocation, a by-play, but the very fundamental and constitutive principle. And this chief end

and aim of existence has been pursued so vigorously and unflinchingly that we have the unmatched spectacle of a church whose adherants in pagan lands outnumber the membership at home nearly three to one."

"This is said of the Moravians. God hasten the day when the Baptists shall have the same spirit, when foreign missions shall be to them not a "mere corallary but the main proposition." What is the reason of our existence as a people, if not that we may win the world to the Lord."

Christ set no bounds, short of the world, to the word of life; nor did he mean other than his words, say, when he said, "The field is the world. Are God's people heeding the command? "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." As never before the spirit of missions is taking hold of the people of God and the churches of Christ. As never before the people are sacrificing and giving of their means to send the gospel to heathen and pagan lands. God is abundantly blessing this work of his people "Give the gospel to the whole world," seems to be the marching orders of the people of God.

It is claimed that the circulation of the scriptures last year under the auspices of the British and Foreign Bible Society was the largest of any year in the history of the society.

It is also given as authentic, that more copies of the word of God, in whole or in part, were put in circulation last year by this society alone than existed in the whole world at the beginning of the present century.

The Agent of the Bible Society in Tokio Japan, has been unable to meet the great demand for the Bible in that city. Since the limits of a report like this will not admit of an extended survey of the foreign mission work, I shall come down to our own work—the work of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The foreign mission board of this convention, has missions established in 5 different countries, and contemplates soon opening up a mission in Japan. In 1859 the Board started to Japan as missionaries, Mr and Mrs Rohrer, who were lost at sea. The enterprise was then abandoned for the present, but has again been taken under advisement by the Board. The 5 countries where the Board now have missions established are China, Mexico, Italy, Brazil and Africa. There are at present under the appointment of the Board, in these countries, 77 missionaries. There are in these fields 60 native helpers. About 20 more missionaries have been recently appointed, all of whom will sail during the year, making a total of 97, who will have to be supported by the Board, and the Board will look to the churches for the money. The contributions to this work last year were $99,000 in round numbers. The expenses of the Board in round numbers was $102,000. The Board asks for $150,000 this year, and no doubt it will all be needed to carry on the work. For missions and chapel fund combined, Mississippi is asked for $9,000. How little this seems for 80,000 Baptists, being on an average-just 11¼ cents each. Let this Association raise her prorata share of that amount, and the blessing of God will rest upon her.

W I HARGIS, Chairman.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

In making a report on Sunday Schools we are glad to note that an increased interest, in this work, is showing itself among our churches. We know, from other sources, that there are more schools in the Ass'n than have heretofore been reported to this body. The time has been when it was necessary to prove that work in the Sunday School was a part of church

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work. But that time has passed. We believe the reasonableness and scripturalness of this work commend themselves to the judgment of all our brethren. We believe we need now to discuss the manner in which the work shall be done, not whether we shall engage in it. To this end we offer some suggestions as how the work should be conducted: 1st. Each school should be under the management of the church where it is located. It should be as much under the control of the church as the prayer meeting, and not left to a few members and the neighborhood, as many of the schools are treated. The school should have the sympathy and help of the pastor, and best members of the church. 2nd, As to those who teach in the school, we believe no one should be allowed who is not a professed christian. No unregenerate person can be a fit teacher of divine things, for they are spiritually discerned, and if the blind lead the blind, "They shall both fall into the ditch." We believe, that for the most part the teachers should be appointed and not left to the choice of the classes, and that the best men and women should be appointed. 3rd, As to teaching, the only object should be to bring the pupils to Christ. All other things should be subordinated to this. If there is a failure here the school is of no value, and should not exist. If the object be self culture, or social pleasure, it would better be sought under some other name. 4th, As to the literature used in the school, we would say that Baptist literature of the strictly sort. We say Baptist literature because we believe the teaching of Baptist doctrine is teaching Bible doctrine. Under no consideration would we advise Baptists to use hybrid literature, or engage in union Sunday Schools. Baptists would better teach their children at home than to do such things.

H W ROCKETT,
E M THORNTON.

APPENDIX C.

GENERAL EDUCATION.

Your committee submits the following:—The opportunity for our sons and daughters, who are blessed with some means, to obtain a good education is very fine. In our own school, Mississippi College, it is so arranged that young men can live and go to school nearly as cheap as they can at home. There is now an arrangement on foot, and being carried out, to endow our college, which when done will lessen the expense to the amount of tuition.

There are no less than 5 or 6 Baptist female colleges in the state where those who have the means to do so, can with safety send their daughters to be educated. We have reason to thank God and feel encouraged; first; because of the number and character of our schools in this state, they are known by their works. One good deed of Mississippi College we mention with pleasure, the giving of tuition to 50 yonng ministers last session. Second. Gifts to our schools in different parts of the country during the last year have been simply wonderful. In Southern Baptist Record of August 15th, mention is made of 42 universities and colleges in America that have received gifts to their endowment funds within the last year. Total am't to all $3,225,000. Of this $649,000 went to Baptist institutions. Add to this

the $100,000 given by Bro Rockfeller and the $50,000 given by a Chicago Bro to found a Baptist school in Chicago, and we have the magnificent sum of $1,399,000 given in one year for Baptist higher education. Certainly our God should be praised for putting it into the hearts of His people to make such good use of their money. Your committee can report truly that the way is being made easy for all classes of people, who have any means to get the very best education and that in our own schools.

There is another side to this subject. Our country is made up largely of poor people, many are very poor, not able to reach the higher education, having to depend on the free schools for their knowledge of books. The free school as it is, and has been managed, is but a poor make-shift, and in our opinion will never educate much. Often the schoolhouses would not make respectable barns, and sometimes there is great diversity of opinions about who shall teach the school, the result is that often incompetent persons teach our free schools. It has happened that in neighborhoods where the majority of the people were professed christians, educated, fashionable dancing maids were selected for teachers and again drinking men have taught our schools. It ought not to be so. The masses of the people are not being educated; neither will they be with the present management of schools. We note with pleasure however that there is a waking up on the subject. Schools are being started in many neighborhoods as any other private enterprise. Great good is being done for all the people where such schools are located. Your committee would recommend the building of such schools in every community, not colleges but good grammar schools, and we know that in any community where there is sense, energy and money to build houses to live in, open up farms and cultivate them, build gin houses and mills and run them, there is sense, energy and money to build a good school house, put in a good teacher and make a success of it. Plans, though not the best, well carried out gives us successful farmers and professional men. The same thing will give us schools, in all our neighborhoods, that will bring us some happy changes in the near future.

H L JOHNSTON.

APPENDIX D.

Good Hope, Sept. 6th, 1889,

DEAR BRETHREN:—In making this, our second report, we would not forget to turn our eyes to the "hills whence cometh our help, and graciously acknowledge the goodness of God in giving us the ability to do something towards disseminating light and knowledge throughout our borders. We have had since Jan. 1st, 1889, Bro H L Finley to do missionary and colportage work within our bounds. We employed Bro Finley for all of his time and agreed to give him $600 for 12 months. The State Board has very generously given us $100 towards Bro Finley's salary: and the Am'n Bap't Publ'n S'y has recently agreed to give us a grant of $100 in books.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

		Dr.
By amount collected from	Clear Creek	$ 68 00
" "	Courtland	18 50
" "	Good hope	30 00
" "	Yocona	17 50
" "	Mt Gilead	6 50
" "	Liberty Hill	3 20
" "	Pilgrims Rest	12 00
" "	Big Springs	15 00
" "	Harrison	25 00
" "	Water Valley	40 70
" "	Yellow Leaf	27 00
" "	Concord	4 50
" "	Books, profit	57 86
Total amounts		325 76

	Cr.
To amount paid out for books	$ 102 75
" " H L Finley	208 06
" " Express Co	60
" " Registration	10
" " H L Finley on last year	10 00
Total	321 51

REPORT OF MISSION AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

No of days of actual service	315
" Miles traveled	3,314
" Bibles sold	69
" Testaments sold	75
" Bibles donated	17
" Testaments donated	92
" Books donated	13
" Books sold	542
" Pages tracts distributed	5,890
" Sermons preached	112
" Addresses delivered	114
" Prayer-meetings held	32
" Families visited	570
" Letters written	118
" Baptisms	3
" Circulars distributed	200
" Sabbath Schools organized	3
Aggregate amount of sales	405.15
" Donations	1,410
Periodicals distributed	200

Our colporteur says there is great need to continue the work. There are at least 20 different communities that are anxious for Baptist preaching. Brethren, we have some favorable indications. The churches seem more

willing to give and we hear that the Oxford church will join us again. Our strength will be increased thereby. Should this work be continued the churches must furnish the money. The Board can only manage the finances.

H L JOHNSTON, Pres.

S R WHITTEN, Clerk.

APPENDIX E.

TEMPERANCE.

It is difficult for us to express ourselves on a subject of so much moment to the country at large, and to the churches especially. Intemperance is the greatest curse that ever afflicted a country. It is the fruitful source of more misery, poverty and crime than any other evil. The Bible is clear and outspoken in regard to this evil. We find such passages as these: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink; that putteth the bottle to his mouth and maketh him drunk also. It is always best for us to follow the teaching of the Bible. We will be happier and more contented, and the conditions of life will rest more lightly upon us. We pray that God will hasten the day when all temptations to drink and all causes of intemperance will be removed from our land, and our people shall be a temperate people.

H B GOWAN,
C C GREER.

APPENDIX F.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

DEAR BRETHREN, Your committee on State Missions beg leave to submit the following as a report on same:—The Board has had in its employment 69 missionaries with J T Christian Secretary. The following is a summary of work done by missionaries in the states, as reported in the minutes of State Convention, which report, we are glad to say, is better than that submitted last year: Days of service, 5,679; number of miles traveled, 55,918; number of stations occupied, 354; number of sermons preached, 3,272; prayer meetings attended, 1,026; families visited for religious purposes, 6,729; number of persons baptized, 1,050; number of persons rec'd by letter, 352; number of persons restored, 58; total additions to churches, 1,460; number of churches organized, 15; Sunday Schools, 80; officers, teachers and scholars, 3,077; addresses, lectures, etc., 574; pages of tracts distributed, 46,681; value of books sold, $2,316; subscribers to Record and other religious papers, 764; collected on fields of missions, $1,776; for other purposes, $7,668; houses of worship repaired, 14; houses of worship builded, 25; value of church building and repairing, $15,625; woman's missionary societies attended, 97; woman's missionary societies organized, 23; woman's missionary societies re-organized, 8; children's meetings attended, 73; sunbeam societies organized, 7.

Your committee is thankful to say we have had a prosperous year. Many of our missionaries have given their whole time to the work, others on account of churches becoming self sustaining have only given a part of their time. We promise God that this year's report goes beyond that of last year, which was one of the best reports ever submitted to the Ass'n. Brethren, this shows to us that we have not yet accomplished all that we can in the state mission field, therefore let us reconsecrate ourselves to the Lord's work, and do more for him in the future than we have in the past, praying God to speed the day when Home and State Missions will be a thing of the past.

J A LEE,
C CROSBY.

APPENDIX G.

PUBLICATIONS.

More and more is the power of the press for good or evil recognized. Not only is there inestimable good or evil in a single volume, but there is helpfulness or harmfulness in a brief paragraph, in a daily or weekly newspaper. In this hurrying, rushing age the printed paragraph fresh from the press may do more to injure or elevate than the lengthy, seldom read volume. We ought, therefore, to guard against the perils in the printed pages as carefully as against the dangers of evil companionship. Religious literature is stimulating to christian activity. Hence the different christian denominations avail themselves of the press in representing their distinctive tenets and in advocating their enterprises. We would recommend to this Ass'n., The Southern Baptist Record, which represents the various enterprises in which we as a denomination are interested, also the Foreign Mission Journal and our Home Field, the organs respectively of the Foreign and Home Mission Boards. For the use of Sunday Schools we would recommend our own publications, the Kind Words series, published under the auspices of the S'n Baptist C'n.

RESOLVED, That this Ass'n also recommend the publications of the American Baptist Publication Societies.

APPENDIX H.

DIGEST OF LETTERS.

ANTIOCH.—Had a meeting of days; 4 additions. Church much revived and advancing. Financial report better than for several years. Outlook hopeful.

BETHANY.—Had a good meeting of days. Additions, 7; diminutions 9. Financial report good and better than for last year. Has a good prayer-meeting and Sunday School.

BIG SPRINGS.—Additions, 5; diminutions, 10. A falling off in contributions. —— 2 acres.

MT GILEAD.—Had a meeting of days. Church greatly

revived. Small in numbers but desire to be strong and efficient in the Master's service. Asks for the prayers of God's people. Additions, 10. Financial report small. A falling off from last year.

LIBERTY HILL.—Additions, 12; diminutions, 6. Letter report no meeting of days and no Sunday School. Contributions small, but a small increase over last year. — — 2 acres.

YELLOW LEAF.—Had a meeting of days. Additions 3, diminutions 4. Financial report better than for many years, which shows a growth in the grace of giving. Pastor lives in Chickasaw Association.

SPRING PORT.—Has no pastor. Just closed a meeting conducted by W I Hargis. There were several professions of conversions. Church anxious to rise. Financial report quite small. Promises two acres of cotton for missions. Additions, 2; dismissed 6; has an evergreen Sunday School.

PILGRIMS REST. —Had a meeting of days; church revived and conversions reported. Wants the Ass'n next year. Additions 5, diminutions, 7, financial report better than last year. S. S. is evergreen.

CLEAR CREEK.—Had a meeting of days, in which the gospel was preached in power by Bro. Ball to the edification of the church. God's blessing has rested upon the church. Collections easy. Pledges more than paid. Financial report the best ever made. Ministerial education and endowment of the college received generous attention. Will give one bale of cotton. Additions, 3; dismissed, 9; Church in fairly good working order. Has a Sunday School and prayer-meeting.

YOCONA.—Will commence a meeting the 2nd Sunday in this month. Church is in good working order, has a weekly prayer-meeting, an evergreen Sunday School and ladies aid society. Financial report good—in advance of last year both for home expenses and missions. Additions 33, diminutions 5.

COURTLAND.—Church in good condition. Had a meeting of days with 5 additions. Sunday School evergreen. Prayer-meeting every Wednesday night. Has ladies aid society.

POPES STATION.—Church in a prosperous condition. Had a meeting of days in which great good was done. Sunday School evergreen. Prayer-meeting once a week. Additions 7, diminutions 12, has ladies aid society.

CONCORD.—Church in good condition. Had meeting of days. Much good was accomplished. Additions 15, diminutions 4. Has a good Sunday School. Asked the prayers of God's people.

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GOOD HOPE.—Church in a prosperous condition. Contemplate a meeting of days at the close of Ass'n. Mission spirit better than ever before. Good Sunday School. Additions 3, diminutions 6. 1 bale.

WATER VALLEY.—Church in good condition. Large membership. Mission spirit good and church at work. S. S. evergreen. Prayer-meeting every Friday night. Additions, 2; diminutions, 6; has a ladies christian aid society; church without pastor; net increase of members 32.

W I HARGIS,
J A LEE.

APPENDIX I.

TREASURER'S REPORT OXFORD ASSOCIATION.

		Dr.
Received for printing minutes	$	28 90
" " Foreign Missions		21 55
" " State Missions		10 25
Total		60 70

		Cr.
Paid Clerk of Association	$	28 90
" H A Tupper Foreign Missions		21 55
" L Ball State Missions		10 25
Total		60 70

Respectfully E G LEIGH, Treas.

APPENDIX J.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Received for Foreign Missions	$	54 85
" " Printing minutes		33 80
" " H L Finley		11 65
Total		100 30

C CROSBY,
J W STOGNER,
J J ROTENBERRY

APPENDIX K.

WOMAN'S WORK.

I rec'd the appointment of vice-Pres., of Oxford Ass'n just one year ago. Then we had three Societies—one at Water Valley, Taylor and Cou t.and; now we have seven; three mentioned above, with new ones at Harrison, Popes, Good Hope and a bright little Sunbeam Society at W. Valley. While some of our churches have contributed more than others, we must bear in mind that some churches are much stronger. I think all of our societies have done nobly and well.

Good Hope	$ 11 65	Pope	$ 10 00
Taylor	71 50	Water Valley	130 00
Water Val'y Sunbeam	10 00	Courtland	70 50
Total			303 65

Harrison has not reported.

Submitted,
MRS ROSA LEIGH, Com.

LIST OF DELEGATES.

CTURTLAND.—Rev J A Lee, E G Leigh, S P Causler. *

WATER VALLEY.—C Crosby.

GOOD HOPE.—S R Lamb, E M Thorn r, C L Anderson, D E Holleman, J D Woodruff.

YOCONA.—J L Sisk, R B Sizemore.

PILGRIMS REST.—Rev G W Hollowell, L C Pollard, W M Vanderberg, J R Jones. *

CONCORD.—R M Mitchell, J W Stogner, J W Higginbotham, B F Tatum.

BETHANY.—H W Rockett, H B Gowan, W J Gowan.

CLEAR CREEK.—Eld W I Hargis, J C Holleman, G F Scott, S R Whitten.

SPRINGPORT.—G T Birdsong, * J W Hobbs, Misses C B and Ada Greer.

ANTIOCH.—M W Randolph, T A Tubbs, M W Laster, J H Dodson.

BIG SPRINGS.—Rev H L Johnson, J P Boydston, J J Rotenberry, D G Thomas. *

POPE.—Joseph Laster, Thos Daton, R W Draper, * Alice Randolph.

YELLOW LEAF.—Eld L W Metts, W R Knight, J O Spencer.

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MT GILEAD.—T A Hale, Alva Nolen, A F Alexander.
LIBERTY HILL.—W H Tyler, J G Hill, R G Ragan, J F Hill.

RULES OF DECORUM.

Article 1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

Art. 2. The Moderator shall be considered judge of order, and shall have discretionary right to call to order at any time.

Art. 3. Any member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association the same day, but at no other time.

Art. 4. The Moderator shall have the same privilege of speech as any other member of the body, provided he call some brother to the chair; but shall not be permitted to vote except in case of tie.

Art. 5. Every motion made in order and seconded, after sufficient time for discussion, shall be by the Moderator put to the vote of the Association, a majority of whom shall govern and the decision shall be publicly announced by the Moderator.

Art. 6. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and address the Mod., and the Mod., when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person or otherwise.

Art. 7. Every member in addressing the body must confine his remarks to the subject under discussion, and no member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection.

Art. 8. The appellation "Brother" shall be used in our addresses.

Art. 9. No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without leave from the Ass'n., nor more than once until all have had an opportunity of speaking.

Art. 10. No member shall be at liberty to absent himself during the hours of business, without leave from the Mod.

Art. 11. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Ass'n., and submit the same for the correct one of the of the Ass'n at the close of each session, and to preserve a file of all proceedings of the body.

Art. 12. It shall be the duty of the Treas., to receive all moneys presented for Assn'al purposes and pay them over by the order of the body.

Art. 13. In case of a motion to suspend any rule of Ass'n, a vote of two-thirds shall be necessary.

Art. 14. The roll of delegates shall be called at the close of each session and absentees without permission shall be designated upon the minutes as such, without leave from the Mod.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. The Ass'n shall be called the Oxford Baptist Ass'n, which shall meet annually. The object of this union shall be to cultivate fraternal intercourse and love between the churches composing this body, and to unite their efforts in the great work of advancing the Redeemer's king-

dom. In the prosecution of these objects, the dissemmination of the Gospel by missionary operations, both at home and abroad, shall receive their encouragements, fostering care and support. It shall be the aims of this Ass'n to promote the cause of Sabbath Schools; also the interest of general education, and more especially the education of the ministry. All christian and charitable enterprises shall receive their encouragement, among which the support of superanuated and wornout ministers will receive especial attention.

Art. 2. Each church belonging to this Ass'n shall be entitled to three representatives until the number of members reaches 50, and one delegate for every 25 provided, in no case shall any church have more than 5 delegates.

Art. 3. The delegates present representing churches shall, during, the session, present their letters of correspondence, which must state their appointment, together with the number of members in fellowship; the number baptized; received by letter; restored; dismissed by letter; excluded and died during the year.

Art. 4. Any church of this Ass'n failing to represent herself at one meeting, will be expected to state the reason thereof at the next meeting; and any church thus failing at two successive meetings, the Ass'n may consider her dropped from her number, or may appoint a committee to inquire into the cause of such failure.

Art. 5. Other churches approving our Articles of Faith, and desiring to act and live in fellowship with us, may be admitted into this body by signifying their approval and desire by delegates and letters.

Art. 6. This Ass'n shall have a Mod., Treas., and Clerk, who shall be chosen by ballot at each annual meeting as soon as the letters from the churches are read and the names of the delegates enrolled. A majority of the votes cast being necessary to an election.

Art. 7. Membership in this Ass'n shall be essential to elligibility to any office within the body.

Art. 8. The same individual shall not be chosen Mod., more than 3 years in succession.

Art. 9. This Ass'n shall have no power to adopt rules, or institute proceedings that shall infringe upon the independence or rights of churches; but it may, when requested by a church in its letter or correspondence, and not otherwise, give advice to such body, and it may separate from such churches as are known to walk disorderly.

Art. 10. This Ass'n may correspond by letter and messenger with other representative bodies of the Baptist denomination.

Art. 11. This Ass'n shall, at its annual meetings, appoint an Ex. Board, composed of as many members as there shall be churches represented, with 5 additional members living in the same vicinity, any 5 of whom shall constitute a quorum. Each church shall have the privilege of nominating its own member of the Board. Said board shall elect its own officers and shall have power to transact the business of the Ass'n., when the Ass'n is not in session, and for this purpose shall meet as often as its chairman shall deem necessary. An annual report of the proceedings of the board shall be made to the Ass'n.

Art. 12. The Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a majority of two-thirds of the members present; provided the proposition to change be made at a previous meeting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS.

NAME OF SCHOOL.	CHARACTER.	SUPERINTN'T	No. Teach's.	Av. At'ance.	Total.....	Mission Collection	Sun. School Expenses	Total.....
Water Valley								
Yocona	Evergreen	W. C. Taylor	5	30	35		$6 00	$6 00
Springport	"	J. T. Birdsong		20	20			
Bethany	"							
Pilgrim's Rest	"	R. Jones	3				5 00	5 00
Good Hope	"	E. M. Thornton	10	37	47	$8 50		8 50
Pope	"		7	38	45	9 45		9 45
Clear Creek	"	S. R. Whitten	5	33	38	17 10	16 30	33 40
			30	153	185	37 05	27 30	64 35

The above is all the information we can get from the letters. Will the Clerks please be more careful to give accurate statistics.—CLERK.

The following churches report Ladie's Aid Societies:
Water Valley. Yocona. Good Hope. Pope, collected $20.
Courtland " $69.

STATISTICAL T

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS	POST OFFICE.	COUNTY	DAYS OF MEETING.	Baptized....	Rec'd by let'r	Restored ...	...
Antioch	J. A. Lee.....	M. M. Randolph.	Courtland	Panola	3rd Sun.....	2	2	1	
Bethany.....	H. W. Rockett.	D. W. Patterson.	Harrison	Panola	2nd and 4th Sun.	3	2	2	
Big Springs...	H. L. Johnston.	D. G. Thomas...	Water Valley..	Yallobusha ...	1st Sun. and Sat.	2	3	..	1
Clear Creek...	W. I. Hargis...	S. R. Whitten...	Alesville.....	Lafayette.....	1st and 3rd Sun.	1	2	..	
Concord	G W Hollowell.	J W Higginb'h'm	Taylor.....	Lafayette	4th Sun. and Sat.	9	3	1	
ourtland	J. A Lee.....	S. P. Causler....	Courtland.....	Panola	4th Sun.....	5	1	..	
ood Hope...	H. L. Johnston.	J. D. Woodruff..	Batesville.....	Panola	3rd Sun and Sat.	..	..	3	
berty Hill...	" "	J. T. White.....	Eureka Springs	Panola	2nd Sun, and Sat.	8	3	1	..
ft. Gillead...	" "	A. F. Alexander.	Water Valley..	Yallobusha ...	4th Sun. and Sat.	4	6	..	..
ope	J. A. Lee.....	R. W. Draper...	Pope.....	Panola	1st Sun. and Sat.	2	3	2	10
ilgrim's Rest.	G W Hollowell	W M Vanderb'rg	Reynolds.	Panola	1st Sun. and Sat.	3	2	1	6
pringport ...	....	E. F. Wallace...	Wallace	Panola	2nd Sun	..	1	1	6
Troy.....	C. C. Greer....	G. H. Johnson..	Central Acad'y	Panola	2nd and 4th Sun.	1	3	..	5
ater Valley.	W. T. Hudson.	J. Bartlett.....	Water Valley.	Yallobusha ...	Each Sunday....	2	..	..	6
llow Leaf..	C. W. Smith..	J. O. Spencer...	Oxford	Lafayette	2nd Sun. and Sat.	3	..	..	4
cona.....	W. I. Hargis...	J. L. Sisk	Taylor.....	Lafayette	2nd Sunday	22	8	3	3
						67	39	15	75

n last reported. ☞ This synopsis of the letters do not represent the churches fairly. Church Clerks should be more careful

TATISTICAL TABLE.

	DAYS OF MEETING.	Baptized....	Rec'd by let'r	Restored ...	Dismised....	Excluded ...	Died	Total Membership	Paid Pastor.	Home Expenses	Foreign Missions	State Missions	Ministerial Education	Miss. College	Minutes.....	Church Property..	Grand Total.
..	3rd Sun.....	2	2	1	0	1	1	38	$ 50 00	$ 5 00	....	....	$	$	$1 50	$800 00	$ 856 50
..	2nd and 4th Sun.	3	2	2	8	..	1	95	250 00	57 20	$25 00	$30 00	....	....	3 50	1500 00	1865 70
..	1st Sun. and Sat.	2	3	..	10	..	..	40	40 85	....	15 00	15 00	....	....	2 50	700 00	773 35
..	1st and 3rd Sun.	1	2	..	9	..	..	88	250 00	62 00	81 00	68 00	30 00	750 00	3 55	3500 00	4780 55
..	4th Sun. and Sat.	9	3	1	2	1	1	....	100 00	....	....	....	20 00	....	2 00	100 00	1222 00
..	4th Sun.....	5	1	..	4	3	..	30	172 00	28 00	20 00	15 00	....	25 00	3 00	....	269 00
..	3rd Sun and Sat.	..	..	3	2	3	1	87	98 75	8 60	20 00	20 00	....	....	2 00	....	149 35
..	2nd Sun, and Sat.	8	3	1	..	6	..	56	38 50	....	5 00	3 00	....	....	1 00	....	47 50
..	4th Sun. and Sat.	4	6	..	..	..	..	47	88 85	....	5 00	5 00	....	....	1 50	....	100 35
..	1st Sun. and Sat.	2	3	2	10	..	2	65	100 00	100 00	10 00	10 00	....	....	2 50	1000 00	1222 50
..	1st Sun. and Sat.	3	2	1	6	1	..	66	100 00	11 55	8 00	12 00	....	....	1 50	....	133 55
..	2nd Sun	..	1	1	6	1	2	23	....	....	....	....	....	....	1 25	....	1 25
..	2nd and 4th Sun.	1	3	..	5	1	..	15	22 00	50 00	2 50	2 00	....	....	....	....	27 00
..	Each Sunday....	2	..	..	6	..	1	30	600 00	50 00	33 50	40 70	64 40	....	2 50	....	791 10
..	2nd Sun. and Sat.	3	..	..	4	..	..	88	150 00	....	10 00	30 0	30 00	....	2 50	....	222 50
..	2nd Sunday	22	8	3	3	2	..	69	100 00	70 65	25 00	16 50	12 00	....	2 50	750 00	1078 65
		67	39	15	75	19	8	937	2141 45	543 00	260 00	267 20	156 40	775 00	33 30	9350 00	13540 85

urch Clerks should be more careful to give accurate statistics.—CLERK.

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Thursda

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J. T. CHRISTIAN,
COR. SECTY. CON. BOARD,
JACKSON, MISS.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Oxford Baptist Association

HELD WITH

PILGRIM'S REST BAPTIST CHURCH,
PANOLA CO., MISS.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, before the Second Sunday in September,
1890.

OFFICERS:

E. W. BARTON, MODERATOR, Water Valley, Miss.
S. R. WHITTEN, CLERK, Alesville, Miss.
E. G. LEIGH, TREASURER, Courtland, Miss.